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REPORT

CD NO.

STAT

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia
 SUBJECT Economic - Foreign trade
 HOW PUBLISHED Semiweekly newspaper
 WHERE PUBLISHED Berlin
 DATE PUBLISHED 2 Jul - 9 Oct 1952
 LANGUAGE German

DATE OF INFORMATION 1952

DATE DIST. 10 Jun 1953

NO. OF PAGES 3

SUPPLEMENT TO
 REPORT NO.

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CZECH EXHIBITS AT LEIPZIG FAIR;
TRADE AGREEMENTS, WITH ARGENTINA, FINLAND, CHINA

EXHIBIT HEAVY MACHINERY -- Berlin, Aussenhandels-Nachrichten, 27 Aug 52

The exhibition of Czechoslovak products at the 1952 Leipzig Industrial Fair is the largest ever assembled by Czechoslovakia. Some 2,500 square meters of hall area and 2,000 square meters of open-air space were made available. Among the more important Czechoslovak exhibits are a steam boiler with an output of 220 tons per hour, and steam turbines with an output of 50,000 and 55,000 kilowatts. One rotor on exhibition weighs 16 tons.

In the field of electrical engineering large synchronous motors, with an output of 15,000 kilowatts, were built for exhibit. In the field of machine tools, lathes 32 meters long and weighing 180 tons were manufactured for exhibit. Work of up to 120 tons in weight and 2,500 millimeters in circumference can be handled by these lathes. The 81-ton motor of a conveyor used in mining is a special attraction. For metallurgical plants, billet shears weighing 73 tons were built; a gantry milling machine weighing 35 tons, a new lathe, and a radial drilling machine furnish an excellent cross section of the ability of the heavy-machine building industry of Czechoslovakia.

In addition to industrial products, the exhibition also contains expensive material, in the form of models, photographs, and drawings, showing improvements in housing and in building techniques, and the broad provisions for social welfare available to all workers.

CONCLUDE TRADE AGREEMENT WITH ARGENTINA -- Berlin, Aussenhandels-Nachrichten, 9 Oct 52

Recently a trade agreement between Czechoslovakia and Argentina was concluded. It is reported that the entire volume of trade between the two countries will be handled through the Argentine export monopoly, TAPI, except as

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the monopoly itself delegates its functions to individual firms. Each country is extending to the other a so-called swing credit in the amount of 300 million crowns, which is to be repaid in installments of 5 million crowns, but payable in gold or US dollars, in case the credit of 300 million crowns has been overdrawn. Only if one of the countries draws more than 100 million crowns of the entire credit of 300 million crowns does it have to pay interest, at the rate of 3 percent, for the amount exceeding 300 million crowns. A special clause excepts so-called switch transactions in settlement. The agreement is supplemented by two lists of commodities, which, however, have been set up without quotas expressed in quantity or in value and without even an obligation to purchase. These lists are to be used solely as guides for the mutual exchange of goods.

The list of Argentine export products includes: raw and processed hides; leather products; quebracho extracts; casein; wool; animal hair and bristles; bone meal and fish meal; blood; linseed cakes; edible oil and tung oil; honey; fresh, dried, and canned fruits; alcohol; molasses; and other products.

The much more voluminous list of Czechoslovak export products includes: hops; refractories; iron and steel wire; electric meters and measuring apparatus; telephonic and electrical supplies; rolled iron; iron bars and plates; iron rods; iron pipes; aluminum bars; pine wood; cotton yarn; kraft insulating paper; parts for textile, paper, and farm machinery; diesel motors for agriculture; glass; microscopes; industrial and vegetable wax; pencils and pencil leads; and other products.

CONCLUDE TRADE AGREEMENT WITH FINLAND -- Berlin, Aussenhandels-Nachrichten, 2 Jul 52

A trade agreement has been concluded between Finland and Czechoslovakia, according to which the value of goods to be exported by Czechoslovakia to Finland is set at 400 million crowns. The principal goods to be delivered by Czechoslovakia? will be industrial products, such as motor vehicles and spare parts, motorcycles, tractors, textile machines, electric welding outfits, machine tools, fine mechanical apparatus, precision tools, sewing machines, typewriters and other office machines, chemicals, plate glass over 5 millimeters thick, and refractory glass.

DEVELOP CZECHOSLOVAK-CHINESE TRADE RELATIONS -- Berlin, Aussenhandels-Nachrichten, 13 Sep 52

The Czechoslovak government has approved the extension of the period of validity of the trade and payments agreement with the People's Republic of China for the year 1952.

This trade agreement is the third concluded between the People's Republic of China and Czechoslovakia. The first, signed in June 1950, encouraged the development of economic relations.

The second agreement, dated 21 June 1951, provided for a fourfold increase in the mutual exchange of goods, as compared to 1950. An agreement was recently concluded covering cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation and postal and telecommunications services between the two countries.

Czechoslovakia is furnishing machines, complete sets of mechanical equipment of various types, foundry products, measuring apparatus and instruments, transportation equipment, chemicals, motor vehicles, paper, medical instruments, and other kinds of industrial and semifinished goods.

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China in return is furnishing valuable raw materials for the heavy and light industry and for the food industry, including ores and concentrates, wool, silk, leather, bristles, oleaginous seeds and vegetable oils, tea, spices, etc.

SET UP COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL TRADE -- Berlin, Aussenhandels-Nachrichten, 4 Oct 52

A National Committee for the Promotion of International Trade has been established in Prague, with the collaboration of Czechoslovak economists and scientists, as well as representatives of industry, foreign trade, and the trade unions. Dr Otokar Pohl, director of the State Bank and head of the Czechoslovak delegation to the Moscow Economic Conference, has assumed the leadership of this committee.

At its first meeting, the committee discussed the development of international trade relations since the close of the Moscow Economic Conference and adopted an agenda based on the decisions of the Moscow Conference.

TRANSFER CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION TO FOREIGN TRADE MINISTRY -- Berlin, Aussenhandels-Nachrichten, 9 Aug 52

A decree issued by the Czechoslovak government has transferred the administration of customs to the Ministry of Foreign Trade, effective 1 August 1952. A special Central Customs Administration is to be set up at this ministry, to take over all functions of the Ministry of Finance and of the kraj national committees dealing with customs and the promulgation of customs law.

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